REMARKS

Claims 1, 12 and 17 have been amended. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-20 remain pending.

The invention as claimed in independent claims 1, 12 and 17 is patentable distinguished from the prior art disclosed or suggested in US 5,689,708 (hereinafter: D1) in that D1 fails to disclose or suggest "a user-specific list of tasks, comprising allowed application programs" wherein execution of tasks referred to by a detected command is prevented if the tasks "are not on the list of allowed tasks."

Furthermore, D1 fails to disclose or suggest that a system administration program is run to configure the user-specific list of tasks based upon "the task database." Although D1 discloses a user-specific list of application programs, the database table 400 lacks the disclosure or suggestion on the associated tasks. In other words, as explicitly recited in independent claims 1, 12 and 17, the tasks and the application programs are both required in the current invention.

The skilled person seeking to devise a better method of administering user access to application programs would not combine D1 with US 6,513,111 (hereinafter: D2), because D2 teaches away from the use of independent application programs. It relates to the customization of user interfaces to a single applications (column 1, lines 40-45), as a means of enabling or disabling certain features of such application programs. Since D2 is not a method of administering access to independent and separate application programs, D2 does not disclose or suggest a user-specific list of tasks comprising "allowed application programs" as explicitly recited in independent claims 1, 12 and 17 (see column 3, lines 5-11 of D2). Thus, the disclosure of D2 is improperly combined with that of D1.

Even if the disclosures of D1 and D2 are combined for the sake of argument, the combined disclosures still fail to disclose, teach or suggest the patentable features of

claims 1, 12 and 17 of the present application. D2 fails to teach the patentably distinct subject matter limitations of claims 1, 12 and 17 that are not taught, disclosed or suggested by D1.

D2 does not disclose or suggest preventing execution of tasks referred to by a detected command "that are not on the list of allowed tasks." Rather, D2 discloses that each object of marked data software configures itself according to user profile information received (column 11, lines 7-10). Thus, action items can be disabled or enable, or limited in range (column 7, lines 56-65). It follows that the teachings of D2 are not compatible with a list of allowed tasks comprising allowed tasks, since D2 discloses the use of a single application program and the customization in user access of the modules within the single application. Also, D2 does not disclose or suggest that any list of tasks is configured merely based upon a database of tasks. Instead, D2 discloses a graphical user interface to set action item values for each user for each of the action items (column 6, lines 24-27). Furthermore, it appears that the subscriber's system administrator must configure the user profile for each user on an individual basis by manually configuring the access.
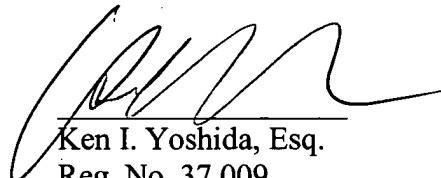
From the above, it is to be concluded that neither of D1 and D2 discloses, teaches or suggests the features of providing a user-specific list of allowed tasks, comprising allowed application programs, detecting a command to execute a task, and preventing execution of tasks referred to by the command that are not on the list of allowed tasks or configuring the user-specific list of allowed tasks also on the basis of the database of tasks as explicitly recited in independent claims 1, 12 and 17. Thus, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the above patentable features of current invention.

Dependent claims 2-11, 13-16 and 18-20 ultimately depend from one of independent claims 1, 12 and 17 and incorporate the above discussed patentably distinct features. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits to the Examiner that the pending rejection of claims 1-20 should be withdrawn.

<u>Conclusion</u>

In view of the above amendments and the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request a favorable Office Action so indicating.

Respectfully submitted,

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